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CATULAN PRESS.

VOLUME I.

HONOLULU, H. I., OCTOBER 23, 1880.

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THE SATURDAY PRESS.

A NEWSPAPER TO BE PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

FIVE DOLLARS A YEAR IN ADVANCE

Subscribers and Advertisers will address Mr. Thos. G. Thrum, Business Manager, at the office of the SATURDAY PRESS.

(From The New York Tribune.)

Home Charity.

Why go for the ocean giving
Foreign beggars needed alms,
With so many paupers living
At our doors with outstretched palms.

There are thirty deaths here,
Thou shalt see the widows here,
And over their way is clear,
Yet our duty none the less.

There is a better giving
In the love of our way,
Must a pang for our fellow
Cometh to us day by day!

Hungry want our feet embrace,
And before our doorway stand
Neighbors with beseeching faces,
Asking pittance from our hand!

There are thousands sick and weary
Near us, whom the heathen might
Play for their fortune dreary,
In the land of Christian light!

Every day before us passes
Crowds deserving precious gift,
Bitter pang and sad distress
Bardens we might partly lift.

And true mission work desiring,
Duty done not then men are,
But to the least help giving,
Helps the nearest misery! H. W. HOLLY.

Brevities.

The first cold water cure was the deluge,
and it killed more than it cured.

"That sermon did me good," said one
friend to another, after hearing an eloquent
preacher. "We shall see," was the reply.

A nobleman, who is in the habit of
speaking to soldiers in an affable manner,
was much amused when a guardsman said
to him, in a hearty and genial way, "I
like you my lord. There's nothing of the
gentleman about you."

Women, it is said, are more thorough in
what they undertake than men are. Even
in the matter of conversation we have the
evidence of her striving to the very utter
most.

If all men were perfect, what a monotonous
world this would be, to be sure! The
few of us that are perfect now would have
nobody to find fault with or laugh at.

"Nashy" takes pride in the service of
his father and grandfather, in one war or
another. As for himself, he says: "My
military record is clear. In the late re-
bellion I served by substitute. I furnished
three substitutes, all of whom to-day are
in good health—in Canada."

A young artist who lives in a boarding-
house wants to know how he can learn to
play the violin without disturbing the
boarders. Soapy your young man, soapy
your bow, and bathe the strings twice a
day in sweet oil. Then you can sit up at
night and play overtures, and nobody will
mind it.

The freaks of fashion are strange things,
and the habit of wearing bunches of roses
at the waist instead of in the bosom of a
lady's dress may give rise to unromantic
situations. The lover who used to treat
"a rose from that fair bosom," must now,
if he has any regard for anatomy, beg for
"a rose from the stomach."

Several men lately swam the Mississippi,
above New Orleans, on a wager. A reporter
on the race says: "None of them seemed
to be putting forth much effort till it was
discovered that an alligator had struck out
from shore as a competitor, and then—
well, every man did his best to keep the
alligator from carrying off the stakes."

THE WEALTH OF YOUNG LOVE.—Edwin
(who has just sold his first sketch from
nature to a benevolent-looking stranger for
20 guineas): "There love! It only
took me two hours! Working six hours a
day for six days a week, that makes eight-
een sketches—at 20 guineas each—a week
—say pounds—that's £18,720 per annum
—say £18,000 a year, we must take a
fortnight's holiday, you know! And all
that without reckoning that I mean to raise
my price as I go on!" Angelina: "Splendid
dear! And we'll lay by half, you know,
in case of a rainy day!"

AN AMERICAN ON CHIEFS.—There is very
little style about chiefs. It gives a man
no opportunity to balance himself on one
leg, lean half over a green table, and
over a real ivory ball with one held across
the small of his back. There is no running
to first base, or going over three fences for
the ball, in chess, and there is no bull's-eye
to hit, which are disadvantages in a way.
Then a mean, little six-inch, and a heavy
bulging forehead, and watery eyes, and
spectacles, and a man twice his size,
which is an anomaly calculated to disturb
the equilibrium of nature.

A lady once consulted Dr. Johnson on
the degree of turpitude to be attached to
her son's robbing an orchard. "Madam,"
replied the doctor, "it all depends on the
weight of the boy. I remember my school
fellow, David Garrick, who was always a
little fellow, robbing a dozen of orchards
with impunity; but the very first time I
climbed an apple tree—I was a heavy boy
—the bough broke with me, and it was
called a judgment. I suppose this is why
Justice is represented with a pair of scales.

Religion does not enjoin a total contempt
of all the pleasures and amusements of
human society. It checks, indeed, that spirit
of dissipation which is too prevalent. It
is not only prohibitions pleasures which are
unlawful, but likewise that unlawful degree
of attachment to pleasures, in themselves
innocent, which withdraws the attention of
man from what is serious and important.
But it brings amusement under due limita-
tion, without extirpating it. It forbids it
as the business, but permits it as the re-
laxation of life.

Little Bobby, aged 8 years, has attended
Sunday-school one or two months. He is an
apt scholar, and gives early promise of
bearing rich ethical fruitage. At play with
an elder brother, the other day, his original
Adam so far got
lost, that he blushed his little face and
struck his brother. Brother Tom was about
to retaliate with his more formidable
weapon, when Bobby cried out: "No, no,
no! Teacher says we mustn't strike back
when we are hit."

Forestry.

During the past few years the press in the
United States has been agitating, and keeping
before the people the subject of the rapidly
disappearing forests of that country. It is es-
timated that every year, taking the whole of
the country, three million acres of wood-land
are cleared up, and little or no effort is made
to replant. While it has not yet been satisfac-
torily proved to scientists that the total annual
rainfall in a country denuded of its forests is
seriously lessened, yet it is a fact that the
regularity of the water supply is impaired by
the destruction of forests. The rainfall is re-
tained in the shade of the trees and in the
spongy soil and mosses, whereby the water
percolates gradually and equably into the
springs and rivulets. But if the hillsides are
bare of trees, the rainfall, having nothing to
retain it, rushes at once into the streams,
which become for the time only torrents, and a
drouth succeeds a flood. This is rendered all
the worse from the fact that the fertile soils
are washed away, and in the end, not only is
the climate rendered hotter, and more variable,
but the country becomes an irreclaimable
desert.

The famines that frequently occur in India
and China are owing to the destruction of the
forests that has been going on for centuries,
rendering the water supply uncertain. In some
parts of India, however, extensive forest
have been planted during the past thirty
years, which has had the effect to restore the
land in some degree to its former healthfulness
and fertility. Accounts of travellers represent
the countries bordering on the Mediterranean
to have suffered from the denudation of the
forests. Springs have dried up and disap-
peared, floods have carried off the fertile soil,
the country has become barren and no longer
capable of supporting a large population.

The thinking men of California are becom-
ing alarmed at the consequences sure to ap-
pear in the future owing to the rapid destruc-
tion now going on of the forests on the flanks of
the Sierras; and the people of the Connecticut
Valley are mourning the loss of their beautiful
rivers, which is beginning to dwindle and run
dry because of the destructive work of the
lumbermen in the hills where it takes its rise.

The Hon. George P. Marsh has published a
work entitled, "The Earth as Modified by
Human Action," in which he has done much
to excite interest in the subject, by showing
forth the acts of man which have in many
places brought the face of the earth to a "de-
solation as complete as that of the moon."

Says Mr. Marsh, "A destruction like that
which has overwhelmed many once beautiful
and fertile regions of Europe awaits an im-
portant part of the United States unless prompt
measures are taken to check the action of the
causes already in operation." Robbing the
land of its forests is the most potent of these
causes.

All that has been said of the disastrous
results which are sure to follow the destruction
of forests in other lands, will apply with equal
force to the forests of our own country. Here
we have been for many years recklessly
cutting down our forests for firewood, or allow-
ing herds of cattle to destroy the trees by
stripping and gnawing the bark of the growth
trees and trampling down the young seedlings.
Many tracts of land can be seen throughout
the islands that were once garden spots of
verdure, but which since the forests have dis-
appeared have become arid deserts. The sub-
siding of the ground brought to the attention
of the public through the press in former
years, and in 1870 the Legislature was induced
to pass an act for the protection of forests.

Therein the Minister of the Interior was
authorized to acquire, by purchase or otherwise,
in his opinion, any lands, or portions of lands,
which he considered necessary for the protection
of the forests, and to reserve the same for
forest purposes, and to purchase private lands
for the same object. The last section of the Act
reads: "That the sum of—dollars is hereby
appropriated for the purposes of this Act."

The bill was never filed, and so the Min-
ister having no funds, nothing has ever been
done by the government for the protection and
preservation of forests. We may, however,
except to this statement the action of Mr. Wil-
son, Minister of the Interior, in clearing the
upper part of Nuuanu Valley of the cattle
that formerly roamed there.

If the government will or cannot take
any action in this matter, private parties who
are landholders should either clear up their
land, or in concert with others, adopt some plan,
and that without delay, whereby the destruction
of forests may be arrested, and the important
work of planting new forests be commenced—
unless we are content to see our springs and
water-courses dry up and these fair isles be-
come parched deserts.

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